

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7101

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PASS: USDA/FAS FOR WITCHER, USDA/AMS FOR ROSS AND
BETZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR OECD

SUBJECT: US PARTICIPATION IN OECD SCHEME FOR FRUIT AND
VEGETABLES

REF: TOFAS 23

1. ROSS, BETZ AND HIRSCH MET WITH SIMANTOV, VIATTE AND
DENISE ON MAY 15 TO DISCUSS SUBJECT. VIATTE THOUGHT
ANOTHER REQUEST TO COUNCIL FOR A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF
DEROGATION NEXT YEAR COULD LEAD TO QUESTIONING WHETHER
US HAD ACHIEVED ANY PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLIANCE.

2. ROSS AND BETZ EXPLAINED THAT FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF THE EQUIVALENCE OF PRINCIPLES AND EXPLANATIONS
(BROCHURES) AS FAR AS OECD AND US STANDARDIZATION OF
CITRUS FRUIT WAS CONCERNED WAS IMPOSSIBLE. IT WAS
SIMILARLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE US TO PARTICIPATE
FULLY IN CONTROL ACTIVITIES AS PER DOCUMENT DAA/1235.

3. HOWEVER, ADHERENCE TO PAR 2 (SUBITEM SMALL ROMAN TWO)
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OF DECISION C(69)118 FINAL MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. SUCH

ADHERENCE REQUIRES "WORK AND EXPERIMENT MADE OR TO BE MADE UNDER THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SCHEME" (I.E. TECHNICAL PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STANDARDS, SUCH AS PACKAGING AND HANDLING - PREPACKAGING - DETERIORATION OF PRODUCE - IMPROVEMENT OF QUALITY, ETC.

4. IT WAS AGREED THAT SECRETARIAT WOULD GIVE AGATTACHE A DRAFT INVITATION FOR ADHERENCE AS PER PAR 3 TO BE FORWARDED TO FAS/W AND THAT AMS F&V WOULD THEN EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF SUCH ADHERENCE.

5. VIATTE THEN EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL VIEW THAT SUCH PARTIAL ADHERENCE TO THE SCHEME MIGHT OBVIATE THE NEED FOR EXTENSION OF THE DEROGATION IN 1976. HE WOULD SUBMIT THE PROBLEM TO THE OECD LEGAL SERVICE FOR FORMAL ADVICE. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT IF HIS VIEW WAS NOT CORRECT AND COUNCIL EXTENSION OF THE DEROGATION WAS REQUIRED, ADHERENCE AS PER PAR 3 COULD CERTAINLY BE CITED AS PROGRESS TOWARD COMPLIANCE (SEE PAR 1).

KATZ

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